IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 2-4 (canceled).

5.   (previously presented)   A recording medium for storing a program that causes an information processing apparatus to provide an encryption key used for encrypting information when executed, said program comprising:

codes that manage an encryption key and a disclosure time which indicates when a decryption key corresponding to said encryption key becomes available;

codes that receive a request of an encryption key with a designated disclosure time from another apparatus; and

codes that output an encryption key which corresponds to the designated disclosure time to said another apparatus out of a key storage storing said at least one encryption key for encrypting information, thereby enabling said another apparatus to encrypt information using the output encryption key that said information can be decrypted after the designated disclosure time.

6.   (previously presented)   The recording medium for storing a program according to claim 5, said program further comprising:

codes that search a key managing table stored in the key storage for an encryption key which corresponds to said requested disclosure time, said

key managing table indicating a relation between encryption keys stored in the key storage and disclosure times of decryption keys corresponding to the encryption keys; and

codes that output an encryption key resulting from said search.

7.　　(currently amended)A recording medium for storing a program that causes an information processing apparatus to provide an encryption key used for encrypting information when executed, said program comprising:

codes that manage an encryption key and a disclosure time which indicates when a decryption key corresponding to said encryption key becomes available;

codes that receive a request of an encryption key with a designated disclosure time from another apparatus; and

codes that output an encryption key which corresponds to the designated disclosure time to said another apparatus out of a key storage storing said at least one encryption key for encrypting information, thereby enabling said another apparatus to encrypt information using the output encryption key that said information can be decrypted after the designated disclosure timeThe recording medium for storing a program according to claim 5, said program further comprising:

codes that generate, if said key managing table does not store a key which corresponds to said requested time, an encryption key meeting a requested condition; and

code that add said generated encryption key into said key managing table.

Claims 8-20 (canceled).